#### FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## [PERFECTED]

### HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

# **HOUSE BILL NO. 543**

## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1324H.03P

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

## AN ACT

To repeal sections 21.760, 29.090, 29.180, 29.190, 29.200, 29.210, 29.230, 29.235, 29.250, 29.260, 29.270, 29.275, 29.340, 50.1030, 56.809, 70.605, 103.025, 104.190, 104.480, and 169.020, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof twenty new sections relating to the state auditor's office responsibilities, duties, and enforcement, with penalty provisions and an emergency clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 21.760, 29.090, 29.180, 29.190, 29.200, 29.210, 29.230, 29.235,

- 2 29.250, 29.260, 29.270, 29.275, 29.340, 50.1030, 56.809, 70.605, 103.025, 104.190, 104.480,
- and 169.020, RSMo, are repealed and twenty new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known
- 4 as sections 29.005, 29.185, 29.190, 29.200, 29.210, 29.216, 29.221, 29.230, 29.235, 29.250,
- 5 29.260, 29.351, 50.1030, 56.809, 70.605, 103.025, 104.190, 104.480, 169.020, and 1, to read as
- 6 follows:

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### 29.005. As used in this chapter, the following terms mean:

- (1) "Accounting system", the total structure of records and procedures which discover, record, classify, and report information on the financial position and operating results of a governmental unit or any of its funds, balanced account groups, and organizational components;
- (2) "Audit", an independent, objective assessment of the stewardship, performance, or cost of government policies, programs, or operations, depending upon the type and scope of the audit. All audits shall conform to the standards established by the comptroller general of the United States for audits of government entities, organizations, programs, activities, and functions as presented in the publication Government Auditing Standards;

11 (3) "Federal agency", any department, agency, or instrumentality of the federal government and any federally owned or controlled corporation;

- (4) "Financial audits", audits providing an independent assessment of whether an entity's reported financial information is presented fairly in accordance with recognized criteria. Financial audits shall consist of the following:
  - (a) Financial statement audits that shall:
- a. Provide or disclaim an opinion about whether an entity's financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States or with another applicable financial reporting framework; or
- b. Report on internal control deficiencies and on compliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, as those controls and provisions relate to financial transactions, systems, and processes; or
- (b) Other financial audits of various scopes which may include, but not be limited to:
  - a. Reporting on specified elements, accounts, or items of a financial statement; and
- b. Auditing compliance with requirements related to federal award expenditures and other governmental financial assistance in conjunction with a financial statement audit;
- (5) "Internal control", the plans, policies, methods, and procedures used to meet an entity's or organization's mission, goals, and objectives. Internal control shall include the processes and procedures for planning, organizing, directing, and controlling operations, as well as management's system for measuring, reporting, and monitoring performance;
- (6) "Performance audits", audits that provide findings or conclusions based on an evaluation of sufficient, appropriate evidence against identified criteria. Performance audit objectives shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (a) Effectiveness and results. This objective may measure the extent to which an entity, organization, activity, program, or function is achieving its goals and objectives;
- (b) Economy and efficiency. This objective shall assess the costs and resources used to achieve results of an entity, organization, activity, program, or function;
- (c) Internal control. This objective shall assess one or more components of an entity's internal control system, which is designed to provide reasonable assurance of achieving effective and efficient operations, reliable financial and performance reporting, or compliance with applicable legal requirements; and

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(d) Compliance. This objective shall assess compliance with criteria established by provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements or by other requirements that could affect the acquisition, protection, use, and disposition of an entity's resources and the quantity, quality, timeliness, and cost of services the entity produces and delivers;

- (7) "State agency", any department, institution, board, commission, committee, division, bureau, officer, official, or any other entity for which the state has oversight responsibility, which shall include, but not be limited to, any institution of higher education, mental or specialty hospital, community college, or circuit court and divisions of the circuit court.
- 29.185. When conducting an audit under this chapter, the audit objectives as defined in the standards established by the comptroller general of the United States shall determine the type of audit to be conducted which may include financial and performance audits. Neither the audit type nor the audit objectives shall be mutually exclusive. An audit may include either financial or performance audit objectives or one or more objectives from both type of audits. A performance audit may include one primary objective, such as economy and efficiency, or a combination of objectives, such as internal control and compliance.
- 29.190. The state auditor shall [prescribe the form of books, receipts, vouchers and documents required to separate and verify each transaction, and forms of reports and statements required for the administration of such officer, or for the information of the public. He shall also] prescribe a uniform method and plan of publishing the county financial statement each year for the information of the public. Such statement or statements shall set forth the true financial condition of the county, the revenues and receipts, expenditures and disbursements for the year as compared with the budget for the year, the bonded debt and other liabilities at the close of the year, the total salaries, fees and all other emoluments received by all county officers, and such other information as shall be prescribed by the state auditor. The form of such statements shall follow the recognized governmental reporting practices.
  - 29.200. [The state auditor shall postaudit the accounts of all state agencies and audit the treasury at least once annually. Once every two years, and when he deems it necessary, proper or expedient, the state auditor shall examine and postaudit the accounts of all appointive officers of the state and of institutions supported in whole or in part by the state. He shall audit any executive department or agency of the state upon the request of the governor.] 1. All audits conducted under this chapter may be made at the discretion of the auditor without advance notice to the organization being audited. An audit also shall be conducted upon the request of the governor as provided under section 26.060, and the expenses for any such audit conducted upon the request of the governor shall be paid as provided in section 26.090.

2. The auditor, on his or her initiative and as often as he or she deems necessary, to the extent deemed practicable and consistent with the overall responsibility as contained in this chapter, shall make or cause to be made audits of all or any part of the activities of the state agencies.

- 3. The auditor shall make, or cause to be made, audits of all or any parts of political subdivisions and other entities as authorized in this chapter or any other law of this state.
- 4. In selecting audit areas and in evaluating current audit activity, the auditor may, at his or her discretion, consider and utilize, in whole or in part, the relevant audit coverage and applicable reports of the audit staffs of the various state agencies, independent contractors, and federal agencies.
- 5. The auditor shall be authorized to contract with federal audit agencies, or any governmental agency, on a cost reimbursement basis, to perform audits of federal grant programs administered by the state departments and institutions in accordance with agreements negotiated between the auditor and the contracting federal audit agencies or any governmental agency. In instances where the grantee state agency shall subgrant such federal funds to local governments, regional councils of government, other local groups, or private or semiprivate institutions or agencies, the auditor shall have the authority to examine the books and records of these subgrantees to the extent necessary to determine eligibility and proper use in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. The auditor shall charge and collect from the contracting federal audit agencies, or any governmental agencies, the actual cost of all the audits of the grants and programs that are conducted by the auditor under the contract. Amounts collected under these arrangements shall be deposited into the state treasury and be credited to the state auditor-federal fund and shall be available to hire sufficient personnel to perform these contracted audits and to pay for related travel, supplies, and other necessary expenses.
- 6. In the auditor's reports of audits and reports of special investigations, the auditor shall make any comments, suggestions, or recommendations deemed appropriate concerning any aspect of such agency's activities and operations.
  - 7. The auditor shall audit the state treasury at least once annually.
- 8. The auditor may examine the banking accounts and records of the state treasurer, state agency, or any political subdivision at any bank or financial institution provided that the bank or financial institution shall not be required to produce the requested account records until the auditor, treasurer, state agency, or political subdivision reimburses the reasonable document production costs of the bank or financial institution.
- 9. The auditor may, as often as the auditor deems necessary, conduct a detailed review of the bookkeeping and accounting systems in use in the various state agencies that

are supported partially or entirely by state funds. Such examinations shall be for the purpose of evaluating the adequacy of systems in use by such agencies. In instances where the auditor determines that existing systems are outmoded, inefficient, or otherwise inadequate, the auditor shall recommend changes to the state agency and notify the general assembly of the recommended changes.

- 10. The auditor shall, through appropriate tests, determine the propriety of the data presented in the state comprehensive annual financial report, and shall express the auditor's opinion in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.
- 11. The auditor shall provide a report to the governor, attorney general, and other appropriate officials of facts in the auditor's possession which pertain to the apparent violation of penal statutes or apparent instances of malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance by an officer or employee.
- 12. At the conclusion of an audit, the auditor or the auditor's designated representative shall supply a copy of a draft report of the audit to, and discuss such draft with, the official, or that official's designated representative, whose office is subject to audit. On any audit of a state agency or political subdivision of the state, the auditee shall provide responses to any recommendations contained in the draft report within thirty days from the receipt of the draft report.
- 13. The auditor shall notify the general assembly, the governor, the director of each agency audited, and other persons as the auditor deems appropriate that an audit report has been published, its subject and title, and the locations, including state libraries, at which the report is available. The auditor then shall distribute copies of the report only to those who request a report. The copies shall be available in written form or available on the official website of the auditor. The auditor may charge a reasonable fee for providing a written copy of an audit report. The auditor also shall file a copy of the audit report in the auditor's office; this copy shall be a permanent public record. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize or permit the publication of information that is otherwise prohibited by law from being disclosed.
- 14. The audit function provided in this chapter shall not be construed to infringe upon or deprive the general assembly or the executive or judicial branches of state government of any rights, powers, or duties vested in or imposed upon them by statute or the constitution of this state.
- 15. The auditor shall be responsible for receiving reports of allegations of improper governmental activities as provided in section 29.221. The auditor shall adopt policies and procedures necessary to provide for the investigation or referral of such allegations.

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16. In accordance with the state's records retention schedule, the auditor shall maintain a complete file of all audit reports and reports of other examinations, investigations, surveys, and reviews issued under the auditor's authority. Audit work papers and other evidence and related supportive material directly pertaining to the work of the auditor's office shall be retained according to an agreement between the auditor and the state archives. To promote intergovernmental cooperation and avoid unnecessary duplication of audit effort, pertinent work papers and other supportive material related to issued audit reports may be, at the discretion of the auditor and unless otherwise prohibited by law, made available for inspection by duly authorized representatives of the state and federal government who desire access to, and inspection of, such records in connection with a matter officially before them, including criminal investigations. Except as provided in this section, audit work papers and related supportive material shall be kept confidential, including any interpretations, advisory opinions, or other information or materials used and relied on in performing the audit.

29.210. [In the year 1949 and every two years thereafter, it shall be the duty of] 2 Whenever the state auditor [to] conducts an audit of the state highways and transportation commission and the state transportation department[.], salaries of auditors, examiners, clerks, stenographers and other employees of the state auditor making such audit and all expenses 5 incurred in making such audit shall be paid monthly by the state highways and transportation commission and the state transportation department out of moneys appropriated to the state highways and transportation commission and the state transportation department [for that purposel, when such payrolls and expense accounts for such purposes are certified to the state highways and transportation commission and the state transportation department by the state auditor.

29.216. The state auditor shall have the power to audit any public employee retirement or public employee health care system operating within the state, which shall include but not be limited to a public employee retirement or public employee health care system established under sections 70.600 to 70.755 and chapters 50, 56, 103, 104, and 169.

29.221. 1. The auditor shall provide various means to receive reports of allegations of improper governmental activities, which shall include a telephone hotline, electronic mail, and internet access. The auditor shall periodically publicize the hotline telephone number, electronic mail address, internet website address, and any other means by which the auditor may receive reports of allegations of improper governmental activities. 5 Individuals who make a report under this section may choose to remain anonymous until they affirmatively consent to having their identity disclosed.

2. The auditor shall receive and initially review reports of allegations of improper governmental activities of state agencies, political subdivisions, or state or political subdivision officers or employees within the scope of authority set forth in this section, including misappropriation, mismanagement, waste of resources, fraud, or violations of state or federal law, rule or regulation. After conducting an initial review, the auditor may investigate those allegations the auditor deems to be credible. When the auditor believes that an allegation of improper governmental activity is outside the authority set forth in this section, the auditor shall refer the allegation to the appropriate state agency responsible for the enforcement or administration of the matter for investigation. When the auditor believes that an allegation of improper governmental activity involves matters set forth in this subsection, those matters shall be referred as follows:

- (1) Allegations of criminal misconduct to either the attorney general or the prosecuting attorney for the county where the alleged misconduct occurred;
- (2) Allegations of violations of sections 105.450 to 105.496 to the Missouri ethics commission;
- (3) Allegations of violations of chapter 115 to the appropriate election authority or the secretary of state.
- 29.230. 1. In every county which does not elect a county auditor, the state auditor shall audit, without cost to the county, at least once during the term for which any county officer is chosen, the accounts of the various county officers supported in whole or in part by public moneys. [The audit shall be made as near the expiration of the term of office as the auditing force of the state auditor will permit.]
- 2. The state auditor shall audit any political subdivision of the state, including counties having a county auditor, if requested to do so by a petition signed by the requisite percent of the qualified voters of the political subdivision. The requisite percent of qualified voters to cause such an audit to be conducted shall be determined as follows:
- (1) If the number of qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition is less than one thousand, twenty-five percent of the qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis of the registered voters eligible to vote at the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition;
- (2) If the number of qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition is one thousand or more but less than five thousand, fifteen percent of the qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election

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held prior to the filing of the petition, provided that the number of qualified voters signing such petition is not less than two hundred;

- (3) If the number of qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition is five thousand or more but less than fifty thousand, ten percent of the qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition, provided that the number of qualified voters signing such petition is not less than seven hundred fifty;
- 27 (4) If the number of qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on the basis 28 of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition is fifty 29 thousand or more, five percent of the qualified voters of the political subdivision determined on 30 the basis of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election held prior to the filing of the petition, provided that the number of qualified voters signing such petition is not less than five thousand. 31 32 The political subdivision shall pay the actual cost of audit. The petition that requests an audit 33 of a political subdivision shall state on its face the estimated cost of the audit and that it will be 34 paid by the political subdivision being audited. The estimated cost of the audit shall be provided 35 by the state auditor within sixty days of such request. The costs of the audit may be billed and 36 paid on an interim basis with individual billing periods to be set at the state auditor's discretion. 37 Moneys held by the state on behalf of a political subdivision may be used to offset unpaid 38 billings for audit costs of the political subdivision. All moneys received by the state in payment 39 of the costs of petition audits shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the "Petition 40 Audit Revolving Trust Fund" which is hereby created with the state treasurer as custodian. The 41 general assembly may appropriate additional moneys to the fund as it deems necessary. The state 42 auditor shall administer the fund and approve all disbursements, upon appropriation, from the 43 fund to apply to the costs of performing petition audits. The provisions of section 33.080 to the 44 contrary notwithstanding, money in the fund shall not be transferred and placed to the credit of 45 general revenue until the amount in the fund at the end of any biennium exceeds one million dollars. The amount in the fund which shall lapse is the amount which exceeds one million 46 47 dollars. No political subdivision shall be audited by petition more than once in any three calendar or fiscal years. 48
  - 29.235. 1. [All audits shall conform to the standards for auditing of governmental organizations, programs, activities and functions established by the comptroller general of the United States. The audit objectives as defined in the standards shall determine the type of audit to be conducted.
  - 2. The state auditor and any person appointed by him for that purpose may administer oaths and cause to be summoned before them any person whose testimony is desired or necessary

in any examination, and may require the person to produce necessary papers, documents and writings.] (1) The auditor and the auditor's authorized representatives shall have ready access to persons and may examine and copy all books, records, reports, vouchers, correspondence, files, personnel files, investments, and any other documentation of any state agency or political subdivision of the state that the auditor is authorized by law to audit. The review of state tax returns shall be limited to matters of official business, and the auditor's report shall not violate the confidentiality provisions of tax laws. Notwithstanding confidentiality provisions of tax laws to the contrary, the auditor may use and disclose information related to overdue tax debts in support of the auditor's statutory mission.

- (2) The auditor and the auditor's duly authorized representatives shall have such access to persons, records, papers, reports, vouchers, correspondence, books, and any other documentation that is in the possession of any individual, private corporation, institution, association, board, or other organization, provided that the auditor complies with state and federal financial privacy requirements prior to accessing financial records including provisions presented in chapter 408 and provided that the auditor or other public entity reimburses the reasonable documentation and production costs that pertain to:
- (a) Amounts received under a grant or contract from the federal government or the state or its political subdivisions;
- (b) Amounts received, disbursed, or otherwise handled on behalf of the federal government or the state. To determine that payments to providers of social and medical services are legal and proper, the providers of such services shall give the auditor, or the auditor's authorized representatives, access to the records of recipients who receive such services.
- (3) The auditor shall, for the purpose of examination and audit authorized by this chapter, have the authority, and shall be provided ready access, to examine and inspect all property, equipment, and facilities in the possession of any state agency, political subdivision, or any individual, private corporation, institution, association, board, or other organization that were furnished or otherwise provided through grant, contract, or any other type of funding by the state of Missouri or the federal government.
- (4) All contracts or agreements entered into as a result of the award of a grant by state agencies or political subdivisions shall include, as a necessary part, a clause describing the auditor's access as provided under this section.
- (5) The auditor and the auditor's authorized agents are authorized to examine all books and accounts of any individual, firm, or corporation only insofar as they relate to transactions with any agency or political subdivision of the state.

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2. The auditor may obtain the services of certified public accountants, qualified management consultants, or other professional persons and experts as the auditor deems necessary or desirable to carry out the duties and functions assigned under this chapter. Unless otherwise authorized by law, no state agency shall enter into any contract for auditing services without consultation with, and the prior written approval of, the auditor.

- 3. (1) For the purposes of this chapter, the auditor or the auditor's authorized representatives shall have the power to subpoena witnesses, to take testimony under oath, to cause the deposition of witnesses residing within or without the state to be taken in a manner prescribed by law, and to assemble records and documents, by subpoena or otherwise. The subpoena power granted by this section shall be exercised only at the specific written direction of the auditor or the auditor's chief deputy.
- (2) If any person refuses to comply with a subpoena, the auditor shall seek to enforce the subpoena before a court of competent jurisdiction to require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, contracts, agreements, and other records. Such court may issue an order requiring such person to appear before the auditor or officers designated by the auditor to produce records or to give testimony relating to the matter under investigation or in question. Any failure to comply with such order of the court may be punished by such court as contempt.

29.250. [If any such officer or officers shall refuse] 1. Any person who willfully makes or causes to be made, to the state auditor or the auditor's designated representatives, any false, misleading, or unfounded report for the purpose of interfering with the performance of any audit, special review, or investigation, or to hinder or obstruct the auditor or the auditor's designated representatives in the performance of duties, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

- 2. Any person or entity affected by this chapter who shall refuse or fail to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a class A misdemeanor. Refusing or failing to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall include but not be limited to any person or entity failing to submit their books, papers and concerns to the inspection of the state auditor, or any of [his] the auditor's examiners, or if anyone connected with the official duties of the state, county, institution, or political subdivision of the state, shall refuse to submit to be examined upon oath[, touching the officers of such county or political subdivision,].
- 3. The state auditor shall report [the fact] any violation of subsection 1 or 2 of this section to the prosecuting attorney, who shall institute such action or proceedings against such [officer or officers] person or entity as [he] the prosecutor may deem proper.

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17 18 29.260. [Nothing done in sections 29.010 to 29.360] The provisions of this chapter shall **not** preclude any officer or officers in charge of the offices and institutions mentioned in [said sections] this chapter from having proper recourse in the courts of law in this state.

[21.760.] **29.351.** 1. During the regular legislative session which convenes in an odd-numbered year, the general assembly shall, by concurrent resolution, employ an independent certified public accountant or certified public accounting firm to conduct an audit examination of the accounts, functions, programs, and management of the state auditor's office. The audit examination shall be made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, including such reviews and inspections of books, records and other underlying data and documents as are necessary to enable the independent certified public accountant performing the audit to reach an informed opinion on the condition and performance of the accounts, functions, programs, and management of the state auditor's office. Upon completion of the audit, the independent certified public accountant shall make a written report of his findings and conclusions, and shall supply each member of the general assembly, the governor, and the state auditor with a copy of the report. The cost of the audit and report shall be paid out of the joint contingent fund of the general assembly.

2. The commissioner of administration shall bid these services, at the direction of the general assembly, pursuant to state purchasing laws.

50.1030. 1. The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation 2 of the fund and the system and the investment of the funds of the system are vested in a board of directors of eleven persons. Nine directors shall be elected by a secret ballot vote of the county employee members of this state. Two directors, who have no beneficiary interest in the 4 system, shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. No more than one director at any one time shall be employed by the same elected county office. Directors 7 shall be chosen for terms of four years from the first day of January next following their election. It shall be the responsibility of the board to establish procedures for the conduct of future elections of directors and such procedures shall be approved by a majority vote by secret ballot by members of the system. The board shall have all powers and duties that are necessary and 10 11 proper to enable it, its officers, employees and agents to fully and effectively carry out all the purposes of sections 50.1000 to 50.1300. 12

- 2. The board of directors shall elect one of their number as chairman and one of their number as vice chairman and may employ an administrator who shall serve as secretary to the board. The board shall hold regular meetings at least once each quarter. Board meetings shall be held in Jefferson City. Other meetings may be called as necessary by the chairman. Notice of such meetings shall be given in accordance with chapter 610.
  - 3. The board of directors shall retain an actuary as technical advisor to the board.

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- 4. The board of directors shall retain investment counsel to be an investment advisor to the board.
- 5. The [state auditor] board shall [provide for biennial] arrange for annual audits of the Missouri county employees' retirement system and the operations of the board[, to be paid for out of the funds of the system] by a certified public accountant or by a firm of certified public accountants.
  - 6. The board of directors shall serve without compensation for their services, but each director shall be paid out of the funds of the system for any actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of duties authorized by the board.
  - 7. The board of directors shall be allowed administrative costs for the operation of the system to be paid out of the funds of the system.
  - 8. The board shall keep a record of its proceedings which shall be open to public inspection. It shall annually prepare a report showing the financial condition of the system. The report shall contain, but not be limited to, an auditor's opinion, financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, an actuary's certification along with actuarial assumptions and financial solvency tests.
  - 9. The board shall conduct an annual review, to determine if, among other things, the following actions are actuarially feasible:
  - (1) An adjustment to the formula described in section 50.1060, subject to the limitations of subsection 4 of section 50.1060;
  - (2) An adjustment in the flat dollar pension benefit credit described in subsection 1 of section 50.1060;
    - (3) The cost-of-living increase as described in section 50.1070;
    - (4) An adjustment in the matching contribution described in section 50.1230;
  - (5) An adjustment in the twenty-five year service cap on creditable service;
- 44 (6) An adjustment to the target replacement ratio; or
- 45 (7) An additional benefit or enhancement which will improve the quality of life of future 46 retirees. Based upon the findings of the actuarial review, the board may vote to change none, 47 one, or more than one of the above items, subject to the actuarial guidelines outlined in section 48 50.1031.
- 56.809. 1. The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation of the fund are vested in a board of trustees of five persons. Trustees shall be elected by a secret ballot vote of the prosecuting attorneys and circuit attorneys of this state. Trustees shall be chosen for terms of four years from the first day of January next following their election except that the members of the first board shall be appointed by the governor by and with the consent
- 6 of the senate after notification in writing, respectively, by the prosecuting attorneys and circuit

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attorneys of eighty percent of the counties in the state, including a city not within a county, that the prosecuting attorney or circuit attorney has elected to come under the provisions of sections 56.800 to 56.840. It shall be the responsibility of the initial board to establish procedures for the conduct of future elections of trustees and such procedures shall be approved by a majority vote by secret ballot of the prosecuting attorneys and circuit attorneys in this state. The board shall have all powers and duties that are necessary and proper to enable it, its officers, employees and agents to fully and effectively carry out all the purposes of sections 56.800 to 56.840.

- 2. The board of trustees shall elect one of their number as chairman and one of their number as vice chairman and may employ an administrator who shall serve as executive secretary to the board. The Missouri office of prosecution services, sections 56.750 to 56.775, may, in the discretion of the board of trustees, act as administrative employees to carry out all of the purposes of sections 56.800 to 56.840. In addition, the board of trustees may appoint such other employees as may be required. The board shall hold regular meetings at least once each quarter. Other meetings may be called as necessary by the chairman or by any three members of the board. Notice of such meetings shall be given in accordance with chapter 610.
- 3. The board of trustees shall appoint an actuary or firm of actuaries as technical advisor to the board of trustees.
- 4. The board of trustees shall retain investment advisors to be investment advisors to the board.
- 5. The board of trustees may retain legal counsel to advise the board and represent the system in legal proceedings.
- 6. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts of the system by a certified public accountant or by a firm of certified public accountants. [The state auditor shall examine such audits at least once every three years and report to the board of trustees and to the governor.]
- 7. The board of trustees shall serve without compensation for their services as such; except that each trustee shall be paid from the system's funds for any necessary expenses incurred in the performance of duties authorized by the board.
- 8. The board of trustees shall be authorized to appropriate funds from the system for administrative costs in the operation of the system.
  - 9. The board of trustees shall, from time to time, after receiving the advice of its actuary, adopt such mortality and other tables of experience, and a rate or rates of regular interest, as shall be necessary for the actuarial requirements of the system, and shall require its executive secretary to keep in convenient form such data as shall be necessary for actuarial investigations of the experience of the system, and such data as shall be necessary for the annual actuarial valuations of the system.

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- 10. The board of trustees shall, after reasonable notice to all interested parties, hear and decide questions arising from the administration of sections 56.800 to [56.835] **56.840**; except that within thirty days after a decision or order, any member, retirant, beneficiary or political subdivision adversely affected by that determination or order may make an appeal under the provisions of chapter 536.
- 11. The board of trustees shall arrange for adequate surety bonds covering the executive secretary and any other custodian of funds or investments of the board. When approved by the board, such bonds shall be deposited in the office of the Missouri secretary of state.
- 12. Subject to the limitations of sections 56.800 to [56.835] **56.840**, the board of trustees shall formulate and adopt rules and regulations for the government of its own proceedings and for the administration of the retirement system.
- 13. The board of trustees shall be the trustees of the funds of the system. Subject to the provisions of any applicable federal or state laws, the board of trustees shall have full power to invest and reinvest the moneys of the system, and to hold, purchase, sell, assign, transfer or dispose of any of the securities and investments in which such moneys shall have been invested, as well as the proceeds of such investments and such moneys.
- 14. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary, the board of trustees may delegate to its duly appointed investment advisors authority to act in place of the board of trustees in the investment and reinvestment of all or part of the moneys of the system, and may also delegate to such advisors the authority to act in place of the board of trustees in the holding, purchasing, selling, assigning, transferring or disposing of any or all of the securities and investments in which such moneys shall have been invested, as well as the proceeds of such investments and such moneys. Such investment counselor shall be registered as an investment advisor with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. In exercising or delegating its investment powers and authority, members of the board of trustees shall exercise ordinary business care and prudence under the facts and circumstances prevailing at the time of the action or decision. In so doing, the board of trustees shall consider the long-term and short-term needs of the system in carrying out its purposes, the system's present and anticipated financial requirements, the expected total return on the system's investment, the general economic conditions, income, growth, long-term net appreciation, and probable safety of funds. No member of the board of trustees shall be liable for any action taken or omitted with respect to the exercise of or delegation of these powers and authority if such member shall have discharged the duties of his or her position in good faith and with that degree of diligence, care and skill which prudent men and women would ordinarily exercise under similar circumstances in a like position.

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15. The board shall keep a record of its proceedings which shall be open to public inspection. It shall annually prepare a report showing the financial condition of the system. The report shall contain, but not be limited to, an auditor's opinion, financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, an actuary's certification along with actuarial assumptions and financial solvency tests.

- 70.605. 1. For the purpose of providing for the retirement or pensioning of the officers and employees and the widows and children of deceased officers and employees of any political subdivision of the state, there is hereby created and established a retirement system which shall be a body corporate, which shall be under the management of a board of trustees herein described, and shall be known as the "Missouri Local Government Employees' Retirement System". Such system may sue and be sued, transact business, invest funds, and hold cash, securities, and other property. All suits or proceedings directly or indirectly against the system shall be brought in Cole County. The system shall begin operations on the first day of the calendar month next following sixty days after the date the board of trustees has received certification from ten political subdivisions that they have elected to become employers.
- 2. The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation of the system is vested in a board of trustees of seven persons: three persons to be elected as trustees by the members of the system; three persons to be elected trustees by the governing bodies of employers; and one person, to be appointed by the governor, who is not a member, retirant, or beneficiary of the system and who is not a member of the governing body of any political subdivision.
- 3. Trustees shall be chosen for terms of four years from the first day of January next following their election or appointment, except that of the first board shall all be appointed by the governor by and with the consent of the senate, as follows:
- (1) Three persons who are officers or officials of political subdivisions, one for a term of three years, one for a term of two years, and one for a term of one year; and
- (2) Three persons who are employees of political subdivisions and who would, if the subdivision by which they are employed becomes an employer, be eligible as members, one for a term of three years, one for a term of two years, and one for a term of one year; and
- (3) That person appointed by the governor under the provisions of subsection 2 of this section. All the members of the first board shall take office as soon as appointed by the governor, but their terms shall be computed from the first day of January next following their appointment, and only one member may be from any political subdivision or be a policeman or fireman.
- 4. Successor trustees elected or appointed as member trustees shall be members of the retirement system; provided, that not more than one member trustee shall be employed by any

one employer, and not more than one member trustee shall be a policeman, and not more than one member trustee shall be a fireman.

- 5. Successor trustees elected as employer trustees shall be elected or appointed officials of employers and shall not be members of the retirement system; provided, that not more than one employer trustee shall be from any one employer.
- 6. An annual meeting of the retirement system shall be called by the board in the last calendar quarter of each year in Jefferson City, or at such place as the board shall determine, for the purpose of electing trustees and to transact such other business as may be required for the proper operation of the system. Notice of such meeting shall be sent by registered mail to the clerk or secretary of each employer not less than thirty days prior to the date of such meeting. The governing body of each employer shall certify to the board the name of one delegate who shall be an officer of the employer, and the members of the employer shall certify to the board a member of the employer to represent such employer at such meeting. The delegate certified as member delegate shall be elected by secret ballot by the members of such employer, and the clerk or secretary of each employer shall be charged with the duty of conducting such election in a manner which will permit each member to vote in such election. Under such rules and regulations as the board shall adopt, approved by the delegates, the member delegates shall elect a member trustee for each such position on the board to be filled.
- 7. In the event any member trustee ceases to be a member of the retirement system, or any employer trustee ceases to be an appointed or elected official of an employer, or becomes a member of the retirement system, or if the trustee appointed by the governor becomes a member of the retirement system or an elected or appointed official of a political subdivision, or if any trustee fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the board, unless in each case excused for cause by the remaining trustees attending such meeting or meetings, he or she shall be considered as having resigned from the board and the board shall, by resolution, declare his or her office of trustee vacated. If a vacancy occurs in the office of trustee, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled; provided, however, that the remaining trustees may fill employer and member trustee vacancies on the board until the next annual meeting.
- 8. Each trustee shall be commissioned by the governor, and before entering upon the duties of his office, shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of the state of Missouri, and to demean himself faithfully in his or her office. Such oath as subscribed to shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state of this state.
- 9. Each trustee shall be entitled to one vote in the board of trustees. Four votes shall be necessary for a decision by the trustees at any meeting of the board of trustees. Four trustees, of

whom at least two shall be member trustees and at least two shall be employer trustees, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the board. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, a meeting need not be called or held to make any decision on a matter before the board. Each member must be sent by the executive secretary a copy of the matter to be decided with full information from the files of the board. The concurring decisions of four trustees may decide the issue by signing a document declaring their decision and sending the written instrument to the executive secretary, provided that no other trustee shall send a dissenting decision to the executive secretary within fifteen days after the document and information was mailed to him or her. If any trustee is not in agreement with the four trustees, the matter is to be passed on at a regular board meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose. The board shall hold regular meetings at least once each quarter, the dates of these meetings to be designated in the rules and regulations adopted by the board. Other meetings as deemed necessary may be called by the chairman or by any four trustees acting jointly.

- 10. The board of trustees shall elect one of their number as chairman, and one of their number as vice chairman, and shall employ an executive secretary, not one of their number, who shall be the executive officer of the board. Other employees of the board shall be chosen only upon the recommendation of the executive secretary.
- 11. The board shall appoint an actuary or a firm of actuaries as technical advisor to the board on matters regarding the operation of the system on an actuarial basis. The actuary or actuaries shall perform such duties as are required of him or her under sections 70.600 to 70.755, and as are from time to time required by the board.
- 12. The board may appoint an attorney-at-law or firm of attorneys-at-law to be the legal advisor of the board and to represent the board in all legal proceedings.
- 13. The board may appoint an investment counselor to be the investment advisor of the board.
- 14. The board shall from time to time, after receiving the advice of its actuary, adopt such mortality and other tables of experience, and a rate or rates of regular interest, as shall be necessary for the actuarial requirements of the system, and shall require its executive secretary to keep in convenient form such data as shall be necessary for actuarial investigations of the experience of the system, and such data as shall be necessary for the annual actuarial valuations of the system.
- 15. The board shall keep a record of its proceedings, which shall be open to public inspection. It shall prepare annually and render to each employer a report showing the financial condition of the system as of the preceding June thirtieth. The report shall contain, but shall not be limited to, a financial balance sheet; a statement of income and disbursements; a detailed statement of investments acquired and disposed of during the year, together with a detailed

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statement of the annual rates of investment income from all assets and from each type of investment; an actuarial balance sheet prepared by means of the last valuation of the system, and 106 such other data as the board shall deem necessary or desirable for a proper understanding of the 107 condition of the system.

- 16. The board of trustees shall, after reasonable notice to all interested parties, conduct administrative hearings to hear and decide questions arising from the administration of sections 70.600 to 70.755; except, that such hearings may be conducted by a hearing officer who shall be appointed by the board. The hearing officer shall preside at the hearing and hear all evidence and rule on the admissibility of evidence. The hearing officer shall make recommended findings of fact and may make recommended conclusions of law to the board. All final orders or determinations or other final actions by the board shall be approved in writing by at least four members of the board. Any board member approving in writing any final order, determination or other final action, who did not attend the hearing, shall do so only after certifying that he or she reviewed all exhibits and read the entire transcript of the hearing. Within thirty days after a decision or order or final action of the board, any member, retirant, beneficiary or political subdivision adversely affected by that determination or order or final action may take an appeal under the provisions of chapter 536. Jurisdiction over any dispute regarding the interpretation of sections 70.600 to 70.755 and the determinations required thereunder shall lie in the circuit court of Cole County.
- 17. The board shall arrange for adequate surety bonds covering the executive secretary and any other custodian of the funds or investments of the board. When approved by the board, said bonds shall be deposited in the office of the secretary of state.
- 18. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts of the system by a certified public accountant or by a firm of certified public accountants. [The state auditor shall examine such audits at least once every three years and report to the board and the governor.]
  - 19. The headquarters of the retirement system shall be in Jefferson City.
- 20. The board of trustees shall serve as trustees without compensation for their services as such; except that each trustee shall be paid for any necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings of the board or in the performance of other duties authorized by the board.
- 21. Subject to the limitations of sections 70.600 to 70.755, the board shall formulate and adopt rules and regulations for the government of its own proceedings and for the administration of the retirement system.
- 103.025. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts of the plan by a certified public accountant or firm of certified public accountants. [The state auditor

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3 shall examine such audits at least once every three years and report to the board and the 4 governor.]

104.190. 1. The board shall keep a complete record of all its proceedings, which shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of any member. A statement covering the operations of the system for the year, including income and disbursements, and the financial condition of the system at the end of the year, showing the actuarial valuation and appraisal of its assets and liabilities, as of July first, shall each year be delivered to the governor of Missouri and be made readily available to the members.

- 2. A system of member employment records necessary for the calculation of retirement benefits shall be kept separate and apart from the customary employee employment records.
- 3. The principal office of the system shall be located in Jefferson City. The system shall have a seal bearing the inscription "Transportation Department Employees' and Highway Patrol Retirement System", which shall be in the custody of its executive director. The courts of this state shall take judicial notice of the seal; and all copies of records, books, and written instruments which are kept in the office of the system and are certified by the executive director under said seal shall be proved or admitted in any court or proceeding as provided by section 109.130.
  - 4. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts of the system by a certified public accountant or by a firm of certified public accountants. [The state auditor shall examine such audits at least once every three years and report to the board and the governor.]
  - 104.480. 1. The board shall keep a complete record of all its proceedings, which shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of any member.
  - 2. A statement covering the operations of the system for the year, including income and disbursements, and of the financial condition of the system at the end of the year, showing the actuarial valuation and appraisal of its assets and liabilities, as of July first, shall each year be delivered to the governor of Missouri and be made readily available to the members.
  - 3. The principal office of the system shall be in Jefferson City. The system shall have a seal bearing the inscription "Missouri State Employees' Retirement System", which shall be in the custody of its director. The courts of this state shall take judicial notice of the seal; and all copies of records, books, and written instruments which are kept in the office of the system and are certified by the director under the seal shall be proved or admitted in any court or proceeding as provided by section 109.130.
- 4. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts of the system by a certified public accountant or by a firm of certified public accountants. [The state auditor

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shall examine such audits at least once every three years and report to the board and the governor.]

169.020. 1. For the purpose of providing retirement allowances and other benefits for public school teachers, there is hereby created and established a retirement system which shall be a body corporate, shall be under the management of a board of trustees herein described, and shall be known as "The Public School Retirement System of Missouri". Such system shall, by and in such name, sue and be sued, transact all of its business, invest all of its funds, and hold 5 all of its cash, securities, and other property. The system so created shall include all school districts in this state, except those in cities that had populations of four hundred thousand or more according to the latest United States decennial census, and such others as are or hereafter may be included in a similar system or in similar systems established by law and made operative; 10 provided, that teachers in school districts of more than four hundred thousand inhabitants who 11 are or may become members of a local retirement system may become members of this system 12 with the same legal benefits as accrue to present members of such state system on the terms and 13 under the conditions provided for in section 169.021. The system hereby established shall begin 14 operations on the first day of July next following the date upon which sections 169.010 to 15 169.130 shall take effect.

- 2. The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation of the retirement system and for making effective the provisions of sections 169.010 to 169.141 are hereby vested in a board of trustees of seven persons as follows: four persons to be elected as trustees by the members and retired members of the public school retirement system created by sections 169.010 to 169.141 and the public education employee retirement system created by sections 169.600 to 169.715; and three members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The first member appointed by the governor shall replace the commissioner of education for a term beginning August 28, 1998. The other two members shall be appointed by the governor at the time each member's, who was appointed by the state board of education, term expires.
- 3. Trustees appointed and elected shall be chosen for terms of four years from the first day of July next following their appointment or election, except that one of the elected trustees shall be a member of the public education employee retirement system and shall be initially elected for a term of three years from July 1, 1991. The initial term of one other elected trustee shall commence on July 1, 1992.
- 4. Trustees appointed by the governor shall be residents of school districts included in the retirement system, but not employees of such districts or a state employee or a state elected official. At least one trustee so appointed shall be a retired member of the public school retirement system or the public education employee retirement system. Three elected trustees

shall be members of the public school retirement system and one elected trustee shall be a member of the public education employee retirement system.

- 5. The elections of the trustees shall be arranged for, managed and conducted by the board of trustees of the retirement system.
- 6. If a vacancy occurs in the office of trustee, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled.
- 7. Trustees of the retirement system shall serve without compensation but they shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred through service on the board of trustees.
  - 8. Each trustee shall be commissioned by the governor, and before entering upon the duties of the trustee's office, shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, and of the state of Missouri and to demean himself or herself faithfully in the trustee's office. Such oath as subscribed to shall be filed in the office of secretary of state of this state.
  - 9. Each trustee shall be entitled to one vote in the board of trustees. Four votes shall be necessary for a decision by the trustees at any meeting of the board of trustees. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, a meeting need not be called or held to make any decision on a matter before the board. Each member must be sent by the executive director a copy of the matter to be decided with full information from the files of the board of trustees. The unanimous decision of four trustees may decide the issue by signing a document declaring their decision and sending such written instrument to the executive director of the board, provided that no other member of the board of trustees shall send a dissenting decision to the executive director of the board within fifteen days after such document and information was mailed to the trustee. If any member is not in agreement with four members the matter is to be passed on at a regular board meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose.
  - 10. The board of trustees shall elect one of their number as chairman, and shall employ a full-time executive director, not one of their number, who shall be the executive officer of the board. Other employees of the board shall be chosen only upon the recommendation of the executive director.
  - 11. The board of trustees shall employ an actuary who shall be its technical advisor on matters regarding the operation of the retirement system, and shall perform such duties as are essential in connection therewith, including the recommendation for adoption by the board of mortality and other necessary tables, and the recommendation of the level rate of contributions required for operation of the system.
  - 12. As soon as practicable after the establishment of the retirement system, and annually thereafter, the actuary shall make a valuation of the system's assets and liabilities on the basis of such tables as have been adopted.

13. At least once in the three-year period following the establishment of the retirement system, and in each five-year period thereafter, the board of trustees shall cause to be made an actuarial investigation into the mortality, service, and compensation experience of the members and beneficiaries of the system, and shall make any changes in the mortality, service, and other tables then in use which the results of the investigation show to be necessary.

- 14. Subject to the limitations of sections 169.010 to 169.141 and 169.600 to 169.715, the board of trustees shall formulate and adopt rules and regulations for the government of its own proceedings and for the administration of the retirement system.
- 15. The board of trustees shall determine and decide all questions of doubt as to what constitutes employment within the meaning of sections 169.010 to 169.141 and 169.600 to 169.715, the amount of benefits to be paid to members, retired members, beneficiaries and survivors and the amount of contributions to be paid by employer and employee. The executive director shall notify by certified mail both employer and member, retired member, beneficiary or survivor interested in such determination. Any member, retired member, beneficiary or survivor, district or employer adversely affected by such determination, at any time within thirty days after being notified of such determination, may appeal to the circuit court of Cole County. Such appeal shall be tried and determined anew in the circuit court and such court shall hear and consider any and all competent testimony relative to the issues in the case, which may be offered by either party thereto. The circuit court shall determine the rights of the parties under sections 169.010 to 169.141 and 169.600 to 169.715 using the same standard provided in section 536.150, and the judgment or order of such circuit court shall be binding upon the parties and the board shall carry out such judgment or order unless an appeal is taken from such decision of the circuit court. Appeals may be had from the circuit court by the employer, member, retired member, beneficiary, survivor or the board, in the manner provided by the civil code.
- 16. The board of trustees shall keep a record of all its proceedings, which shall be open to public inspection. It shall prepare annually a comprehensive annual financial report, the financial section of which shall be prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and shall include the independent auditor's opinion letter. The report shall also include information on the actuarial status and the investments of the system. The reports shall be preserved by the executive director and made available for public inspection.
- 17. The board of trustees shall provide for the maintenance of an individual account with each member, setting forth such data as may be necessary for a ready determination of the member's earnings, contributions, and interest accumulations. It shall also collect and keep in convenient form such data as shall be necessary for the preparation of the required mortality and service tables and for the compilation of such other information as shall be required for the

valuation of the system's assets and liabilities. All individually identifiable information pertaining to members, retirees, beneficiaries and survivors shall be confidential.

- 18. The board of trustees shall meet regularly at least twice each year, with the dates of such meetings to be designated in the rules and regulations adopted by the board. Such other meetings as are deemed necessary may be called by the chairman of the board or by any four members acting jointly.
- 19. The headquarters of the retirement system shall be in Jefferson City, where suitable office space, utilities and other services and equipment necessary for the operation of the system shall be provided by the board of trustees and all costs shall be paid from funds of the system. All suits or proceedings directly or indirectly against the board of trustees, the board's members or employees or the retirement system established by sections 169.010 to 169.141 or 169.600 to 169.715 shall be brought in Cole County.
- 20. The board may appoint an attorney or firm of attorneys to be the legal advisor to the board and to represent the board in legal proceedings, however, if the board does not make such an appointment, the attorney general shall be the legal advisor of the board of trustees, and shall represent the board in all legal proceedings.
- 122 21. The board of trustees shall arrange for adequate surety bonds covering the executive 123 director. When approved by the board, such bonds shall be deposited in the office of the 124 secretary of state of this state.
  - 22. The board shall arrange for annual audits of the records and accounts of the system by a firm of certified public accountants[, the state auditor shall review the audit of the records and accounts of the system at least once every three years and shall report the results to the board of trustees and the governor].
  - 23. The board by its rules may establish an interest charge to be paid by the employer on any payments of contributions which are delinquent. The rate charged shall not exceed the actuarially assumed rate of return on invested funds of the pertinent system.
  - Section 1. The state auditor may have the power to audit a community action agency as defined under 10 C.F.R. 440.3. The term "community action agency" as used in this section shall mean a private corporation or public agency established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, Pub. L. 88-452, which is authorized to administer funds received from federal, state, local, or private funding entities to assess, design, operate, finance, and oversee antipoverty programs.
    - [29.090. It shall be unlawful for any examiner appointed under the provisions of this chapter to accept, receive or ride on any free transportation while engaged on official business, and any officer who shall request such free transportation for any such examiner shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and punishable by a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars.]

[29.180. The state auditor in cooperation with the budget director shall establish appropriate systems of accounting for all officers and agencies of the state, including all educational and eleemosynary institutions, and he shall also prescribe systems of accounting for all county officers. Such systems of accounting shall conform to recognized principles of governmental accounting and shall be uniform in application to offices of the same grade and kind and to accounts of the same kind. Such systems of accounting shall be adequate to record all assets and revenues accrued, all liabilities and expenditures incurred, as well as all cash receipts and disbursements, and all transactions affecting the acquisition and disposition of property, including the preparation and keeping of inventories of all property. Each department shall keep such accounts in accordance with the system of accounts prescribed by the auditor.]

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[29.270. The state auditor shall report to the governor as soon as possible the result of his findings from an examination of the state institutions, and report to the elective officers the result of his findings from an examination of their appointive officers, setting out in detail the findings as to the collection and disbursements of public funds and the mode of bookkeeping and accounting in force in such institution, and as soon as possible after the completion of the examination of a county's officers and institutions, he shall report in writing the findings to the county court or prosecuting attorney or proper officer thereof, setting out in detail the results as to the collection and disbursement of county funds and the mode of bookkeeping and accounting in use and such recommendations as may be proper. All audit reports and reports of examinations made by the state auditor shall be made a matter of public record. The state auditor shall report to each general assembly his findings and recommendations resulting from audits and examinations of the various state officials and institutions made by him in accordance with law.]

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[29.275. Before the state auditor performs a duty or service required by law for which a fee is charged, the person requiring the service shall produce to the state auditor the receipt of the state director of revenue showing that the fee has been paid to him.]

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[29.340. Any state or county official affected by this chapter who shall refuse or fail to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.]

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Section B. Because immediate action is necessary in order to ensure transparency in government, the enactment of section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an

4 emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and the enactment of section A of this act

5 shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.

